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APPLICATION NO.	FIL	ING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/749,939	12/31/2003		Robert G. Meldrum	423428001US1	6669	
7590 08/23/2005				EXAM	EXAMINER	
Roy Walzer			TIEU, BENNY QUOC			
Litchfield Partners 10 South Street				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
Litchfield, CT 06759			2642			
				DATE MAILED: 08/23/2003	5	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)					
	10/749,939	MELDRUM ET AL.					
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit					
	Benny Q. Tieu	2642					
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	correspondence address					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period v Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tin within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) day will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).					
Status							
1)⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 De	ecember 2003.						
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	action is non-final.						
3) Since this application is in condition for allowar		osecution as to the merits is					
closed in accordance with the practice under E							
Disposition of Claims							
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-47</u> is/are pending in the application.							
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw							
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.							
6) Claim(s) is/are rejected.							
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.							
8) Claim(s) 1-47 are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement.						
Application Papers							
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine	r.						
•	10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the							
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct	• , ,						
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex		• •					
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119							
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents)-(d) or (f).					
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents		on No					
3. Copies of the certified copies of the prior							
application from the International Bureau	·	ed in this National Stage					
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list	` ''	ed.					
Attachment(s)							
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary	(PTO-413)					
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Da	ate					
 Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 	5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:	Patent Application (PTO-152)					

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

- 1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-35, drawn to a method and apparatus providing simultaneous ring services for a telephone number associated with an end-user line of a phone network, classified in class 379, subclass 211.04.
 - II. Claims 36-47, drawn to a method and system configured to provide simultaneous ring telephone services over Internet, classified in class 379, subclass 201.04.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

- 2. Inventions I and II are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention I has separate utility such as providing simultaneous ring services for a telephone number associated with an end-user line of a phone network while the invention II configuring the network to provide the simultaneous ring services. See MPEP § 806.05(d).
- 3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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- 4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
- 5. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).
- 6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).
- 7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benny Q. Tieu whose telephone number is 571-272-7490. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 6:30AM 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on 571-272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Benny Q. Tieu Primary Examiner Art Unit 2642